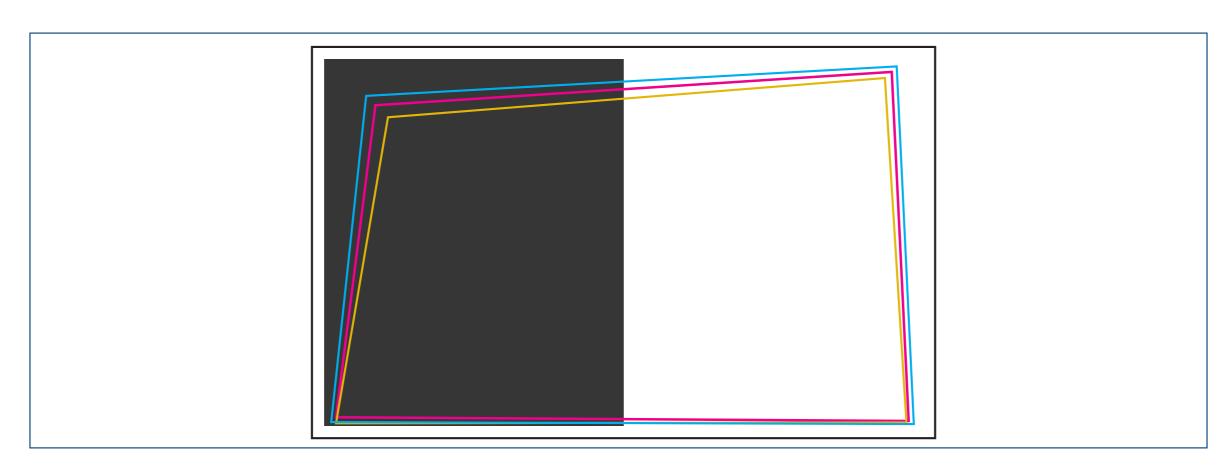
Compensating paper stretch



Prinect User Days

Andreas Gembe | Print Media Center | November 2015





Overview



- The problem
- The impact
- Influencing factors
- Compensation option 1
 Paper Stretch Compensation
- Compensation option 2
 Automatic Paper Stretch Compensation New Product
- Comparison

The problem



"At each production there is a stretch of the print substrate"

The impact



Loss of Quality

Fonts are unreadable

Details in the image are blurred.

Jobs with multiple ups show a color shift.





The impact



Increased makeready time and more waste sheets

Adjusting a sellable register requires experience and time - the result is always a compromise

"Mechanical" adjustment by pulling plate - even more time consuming and increased paper consumption







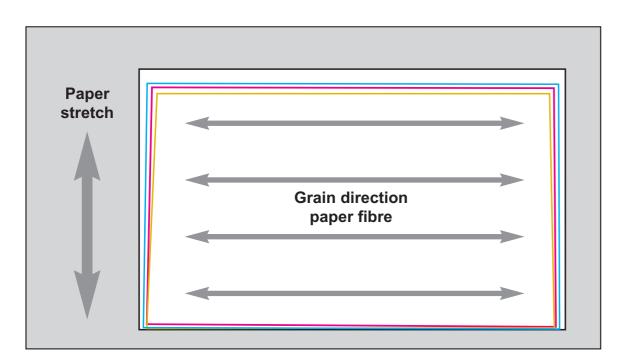
Influencing factors



Grain direction

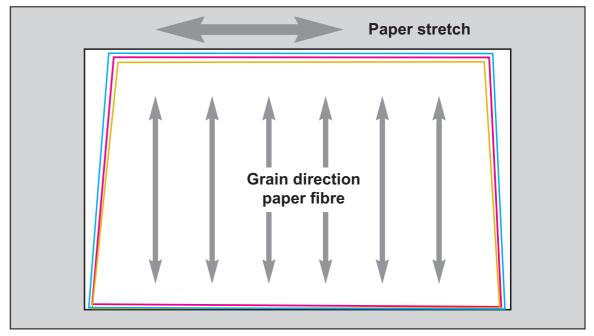
Long grain

Schematic illustration of the paper stretch



Short grain

Schematic illustration of the paper stretch



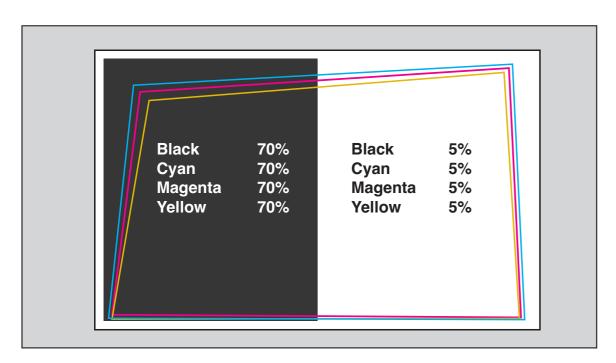
Influencing factors



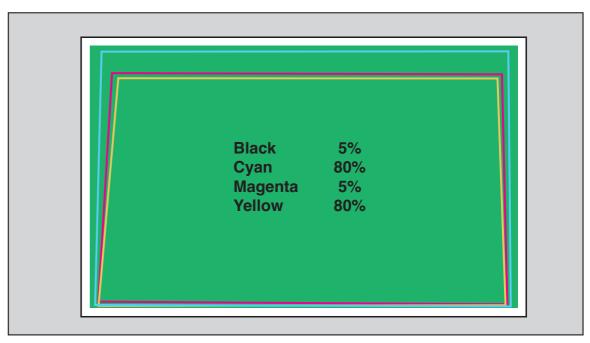
Ink coverage of the print job

Compare areas with high/low ink coverage

Schematic illustration of the paper stretch



Different ink coverage from unit to unit Schematic illustration of the paper stretch



Additional influencing factors





Paper type



Ink / spot colors



Used printing units



Grammage



Conditioning paper



Color sequence

Compensation Option 1 - "Paper Stretch Compensation"

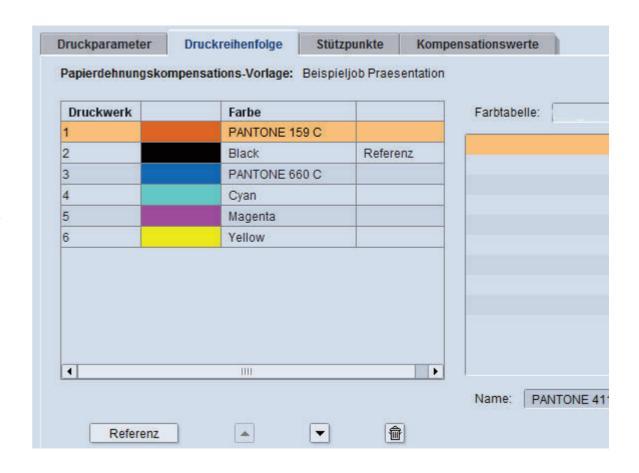


Compensation of individual print jobs

For the compensation of individual print jobs the software "Paper Stretch Compensation" can be used.

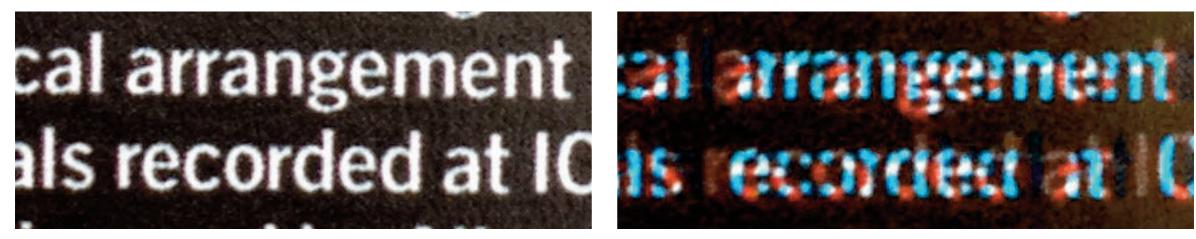
This software can compensate individually any type of print job, regardless of any factors.

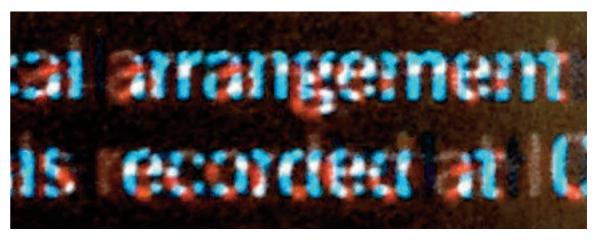
As a result, a register quality is achieved which shows almost no register differences.

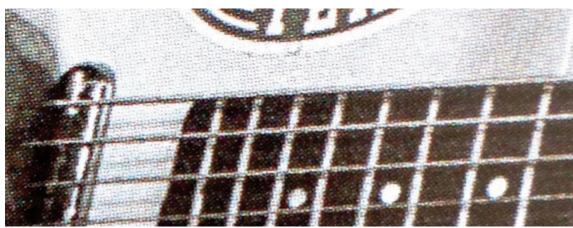


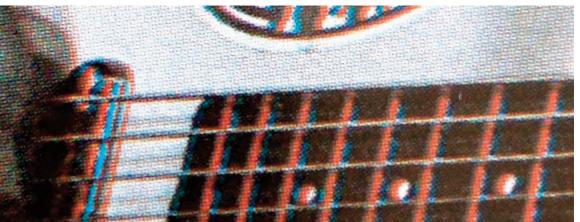
Compensation Option 1 - Comparison with and without compensation









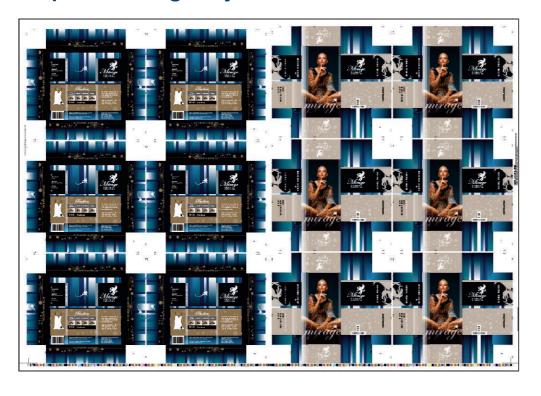


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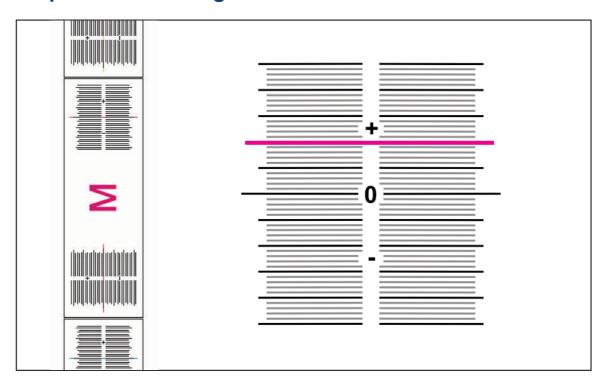
Compensation Option 1 - Workflow



Step 1 - Printing the job



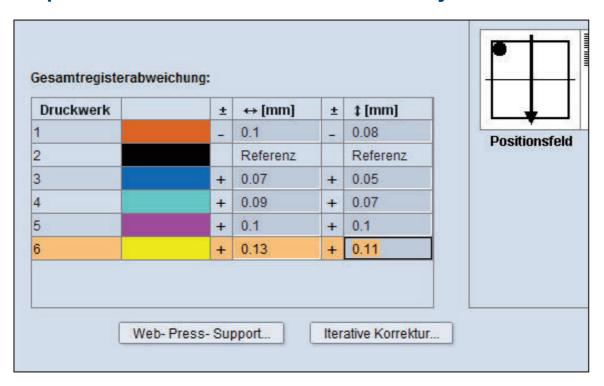
Step 2 - Evaluate register deviation



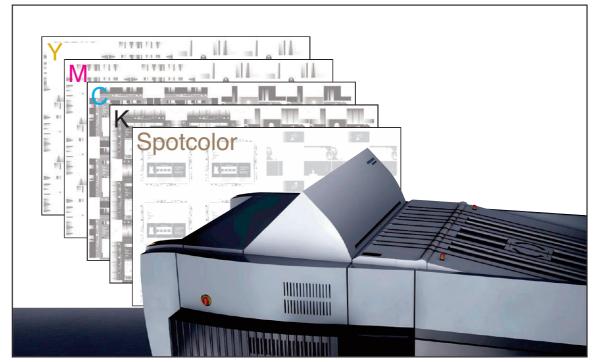
Compensation Option 1 - Workflow



Step 3 - Transfer values in the Workflow System



Step 4 - Exposing new printing plates





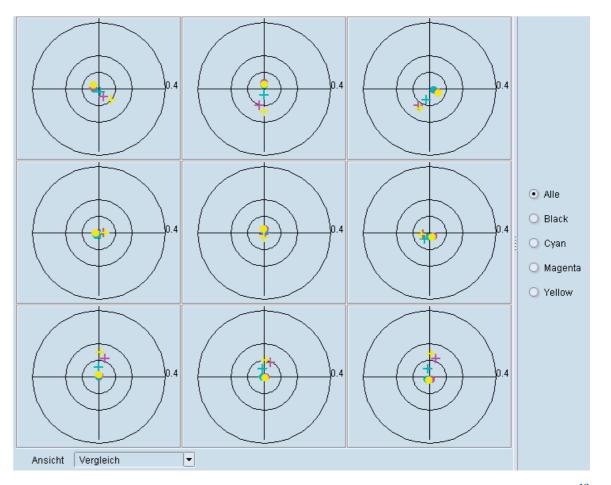


Compensation of print jobs based on a "Paper Stretch Forecast"

For the compensation of print jobs that are produced with the identical materials and constant parameters, the software "Automatic Paper Stretch Compensation" can be used.

With this software it is possible to forecast the paperstretch. The exposure of a second set of plates is eliminated.

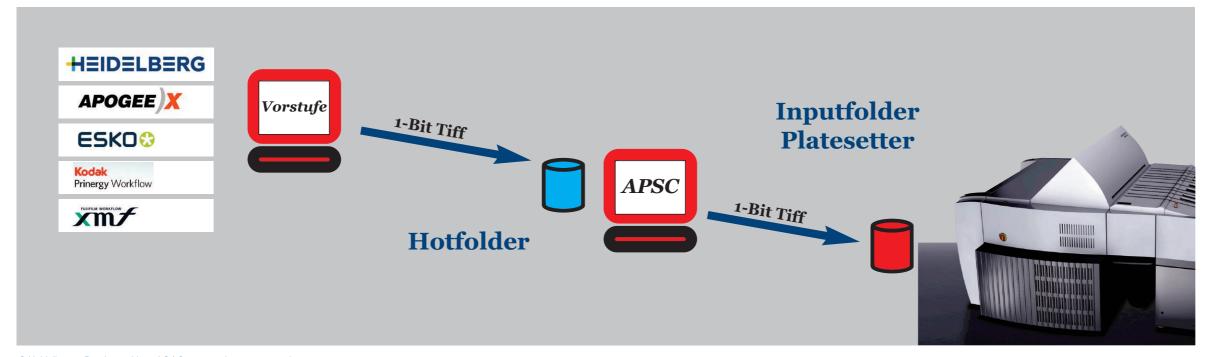
The result is a considerable reduction of register deviations.





Connecting to the workflow

The actual version of the software works completely workflow independent. A Prinect-workflow integrated version will follow at a later date





Definition of all process parameters

The basis for the paper stretch forecast is a "Papercalibration".

For each type of paper the job paramters must be defined.

Possible Color sequences

Reference color is always Black and must printed in the first printing unit. Subsequent process colors can be printed

in any order,

Spot color must be printed after the process colors



Paper type



Ink



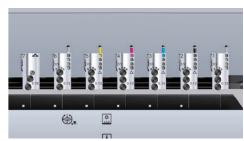
Used printing units



Grammage



Grain direction



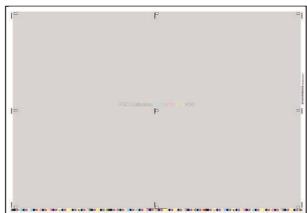
Color sequence

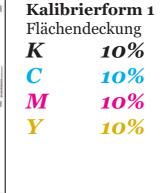




Creation and exposure of the calibration testforms

To determine the paperstretch at least two test forms must be printed with a widely differing inkcoverage.







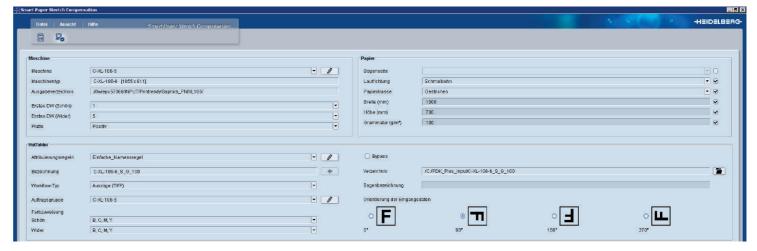
Kalibrierform 1 Flächendeckung K 70% C 70% M 70% Y 70%



Configuration hotfolder

The configuration for different curves is performed by using individual hot folders.

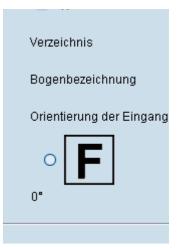
Variable parameters, such as color separation and sheet side, are read out of the names of the exposure files.









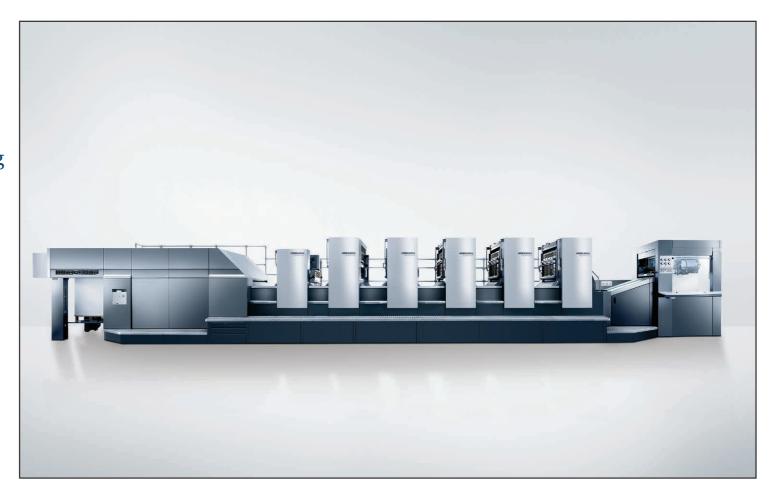




Printig calibration jobs

The printing of the test forms must be performed under production conditions.

Parameters such as color density, dampening settings and the consumables used may not differ from the later production conditions.

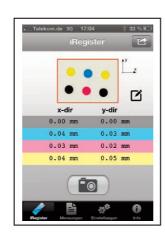


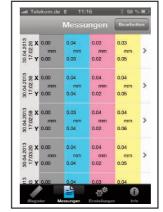


Evaluate register deviation

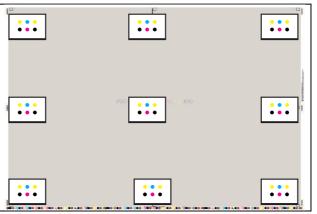
For the determination of the register deviation, we use the App "iRegister" by **TECHKON** Exclusion we

For the calibration, the register deviations of CMYK are measured. Spot colors are not measured.





Interface Techkon-App "iRegister"



Positioning measuring mark



 \boldsymbol{K}

 \boldsymbol{C}

M

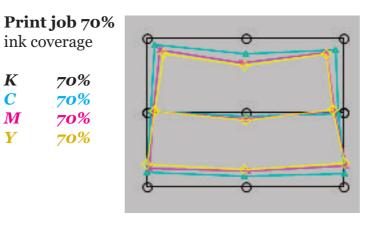


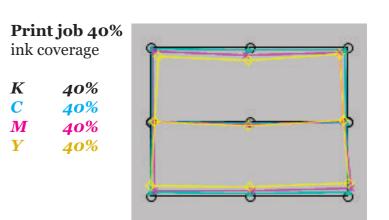
Chart of register deviation

The higher the ink covverage, the higher the paper stretch.

Register deviation rises accordingly to paperstretch.

Print job 10% ink coverage		6	-5	
K C M Y	10% 10% 10% 10%			
		<u></u>		







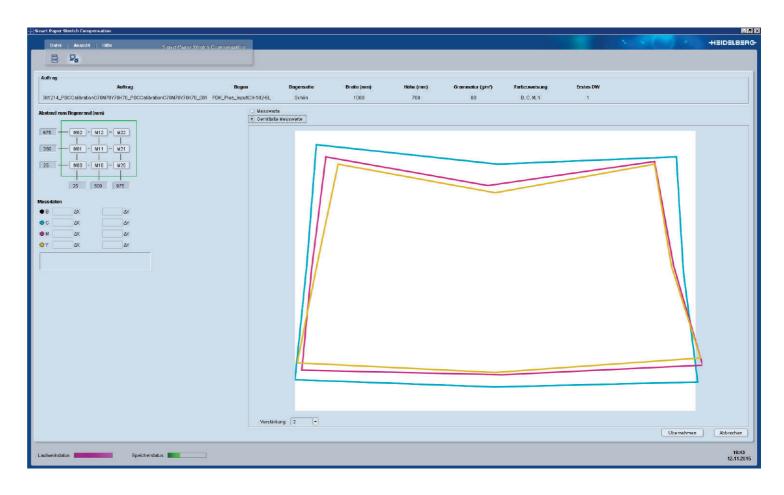


Tansfer of measurement data

The readings from the app can directly be transfered to the workflow.

The example shows the transfer of measurement data of the calibration job with an ink-coverage of 70%.

The measured data must be linked to the respective testjob.

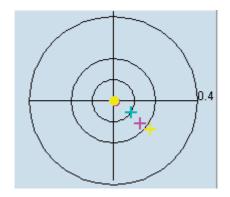


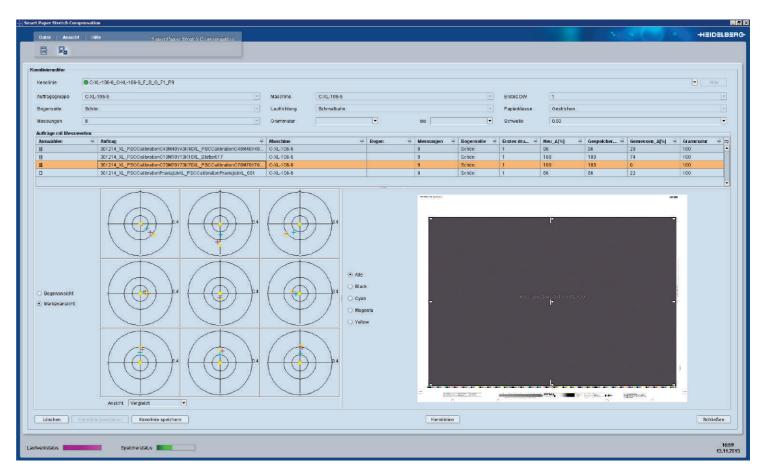


Creating a characteristic curve

A characteristic curve must consist at least of two reference points.

Register deviations are displayed graphically for better evaluation.



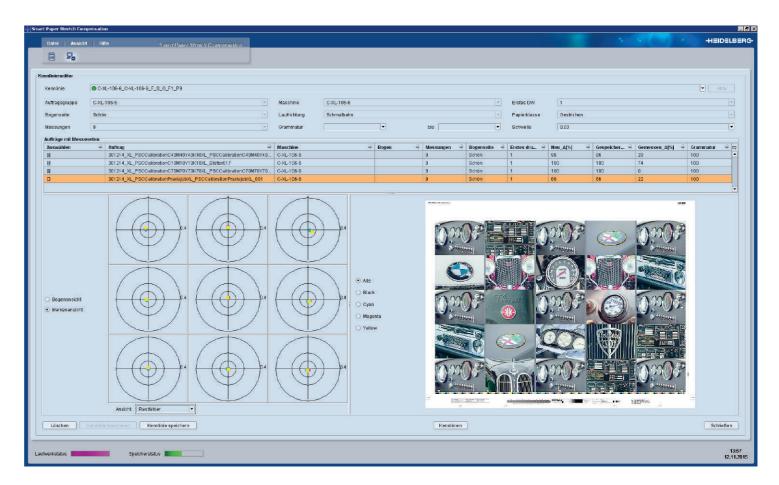




Forecast paper stretch

Based on the characteristic curve and the individual ink coverage of the print job, a forecast concerning the paper stretch can be made.

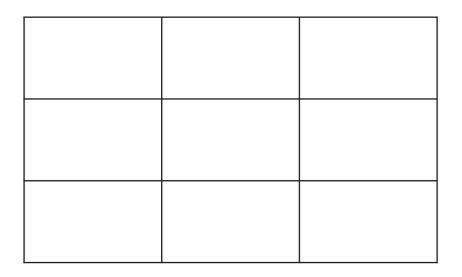
The accuracy of the forecast can be permanently monitored and further optimized in the current production.

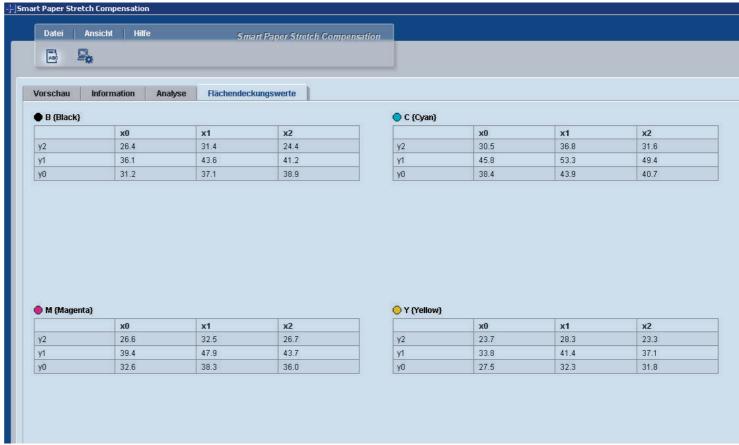




Production - Analysis ink coverage

In the current production, the ink coverage of each color separation is determined. For analysis of the ink coverage the printed sheet is divided into 9 areas.





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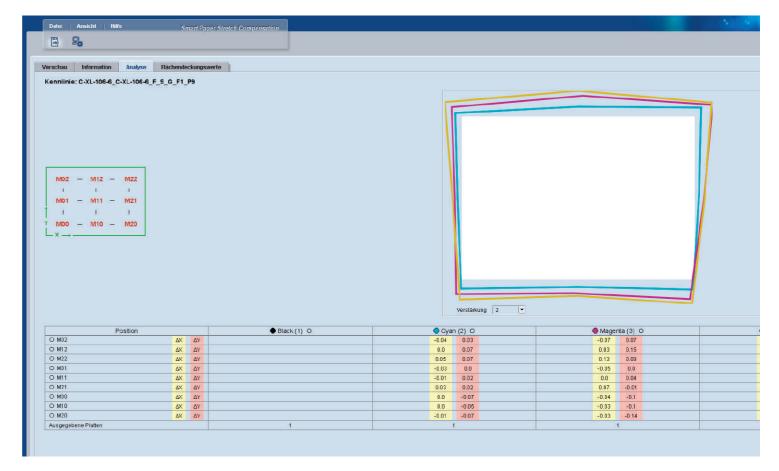


Production - Compensation

In the last process step the calculated distortion is then included in the exposure file.

The graphic illustrates the distortion of the printed image on the printing plate.

OYellow (4)				
-0.12	0.1			
0.0	0.18			
0.12	0.1			
-0.06	0.0			
0.0	0.05			
0.07	-0.02			
-0.01	-0.14			
0.0	-0.12			
-0.02	-0.17			



Automatic Paper Stretch Compensation - Results

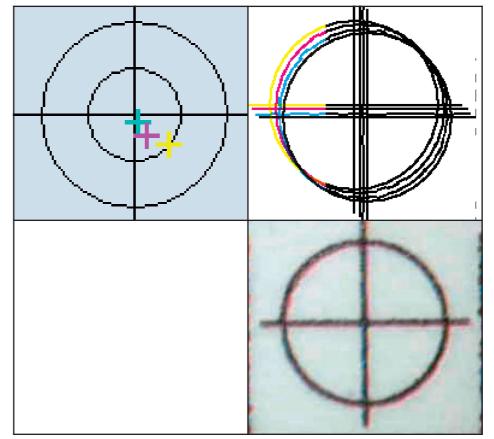


Result on printing plate

The result on the printing plate shows a reversal of the register from the original print.

In printing this reversal leads to an improved register.

Measuring printed sheet



Result on printing plate middle

Result on printed sheet

Automatic Paper Stretch Compensation - Production

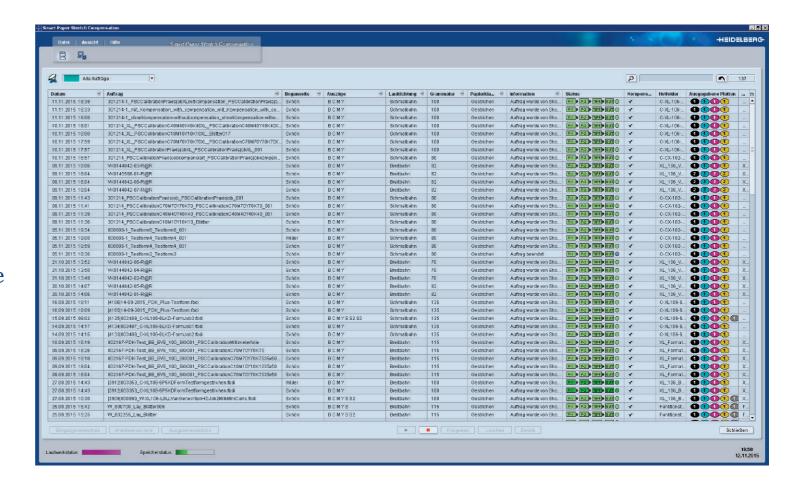


Production

The further production is fully automatic.

Depending on the respective production paramters the corresponding characteristic curve is applied.

The effective calculating time per job is highly dependent on the content of each file and the format size.



Comparison



	1 - Paper Stretch Compensation	2 - Automatic Paper Stretch Compensation
Workflow	Heidelberg Prinect	Workflow independend
File format	Output: 1-Bit Tiff	Input/Output: 1-Bit Tiff
Register evaluation	Manuelly	Techkon iRegister App
Compensation based on file format	1-bit tif file	1-bit tif file
Possible color sequence	In any order	Reference color always Black, first printing unit, subsequent process color in any order, spot color at last
Plate	Any platesetter that can output 1-bit tif files	Any platesetter that can output 1-bit tif files
Evaluate register deviation	Proof print of every job	Forecast based on a "Papercalibration"
additional set of printing plates	Necessary	Not necessary
Process parameters	No restrictions	Papercalibration for every paper type required